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COUNTRY

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SUBJECT

Research Institutes and Bureaux

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1. NII (Nauchno-Isledovatel'ski Institut), Scientific Research Institute, is a general term referring to many such institutes in the USSR. Each specific institute always had a more complete designation indicating its specialty, such as Scientific Research Institute for Kok-saghyz (Taraxacum Kok-saghyz, a type of rubber-producing dandelion). A Central Scientific Research Institute (TsNII) also had to have a specialty designation. A central institute for any one specific field would probably be located in Moscow and would have jurisdiction over other institutes in its field. The central institute would act as a coordinating body and would also engage in general research in its field.

2. In regard to a Special Design Bureau (OKB - Osoboye Konstruktorskoye Bureau or SKB - Spetsalnaya Konstruktorskoye Bureau), the word "special" probably referred to a field of specialization. Each important military academy, such as the one for Artillery, had a KB (Konstruktorskoye Bureau) made up of experts and advisers in the field. The Air Force probably has the most KBs: one at the Air Academy, one at Factory No 22 in the Phili suburb of Moscow, and KBs at various other plants. There was only one Air Academy prior to the end of World War II. It was called the Military Air Academy imeni Zhukovski (Voenno Vozdushnaya Akademiya imeni Zhukovskovo) and was located in Petrovsk Park in Moscow. After World War II, the Air Academy was divided into two, both in Moscow. The Aerodynamics Research Institute (Aerodynamicheskii Isledovatel'ski Institut) in Moscow was under the original Air Academy. It probably now is under the new Technical Air Academy.

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3. The Series Design Bureaux [OKV or SKB] were probably not KBs in the sense of developing new designs, but probably were concerned with producing drawings for serial mass production. They would be located at factories only. [redacted] 50X1
- [redacted] In effect, the Series Design Bureaux were Production KBs (Proizvodstvenii KBs). Incidentally, a "proyekt" in Soviet terminology referred to the sum of drawings made for construction activities, such as railways, plants, depots, and buildings. It did not apply to drawings for weapons or machines.
4. Design Bureaux (KBs) consisted of designers and inventors and were located at military academies and at some factories. There could also be central KBs. The KBs at factories were referred to as "Zavodskii KBs" and could be concerned either with design or production.
5. The Department of Technical Control (OTK - Otdel Tekhnicheskovo Kontrole) was represented at each plant by inspectors who checked daily to see that production was being carried out properly. It is probable that each Ministry which produced or manufactured items had a central OTK administration.

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